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VANCOUVER • WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24, 2009 metronews.ca

Celebrity Buzz pg 26

GLAAD rips into Perez

Same Sex Marriage

With pride weeks now underway across the country, Metro Canada is taking a look at the state of same-sex marriages. This week we will look at same-sex marriage in Canada, the United States and around the world and introduce you to people who have gotten married, or plan to tie the knot.

Today

- **After California, same-sex marriage supporters are fighting back, pg 8**

Tomorrow

- **We introduce you to some couples hoping to get married in the U.S.**

Friday

- **An update on the status of same-sex marriages in other countries**

Sunny Side

Follow Metro's SunnySide initiative as we help you find the good news around Vancouver and Canada. This is also a Call to Action for you to send us your suggestions at vancouverletters@metronews.ca, metronews.ca or on Twitter @metrovancouver.

On metronews.ca

- **See what other Metro readers are doing and saying about SunnySide**

2010 advisory for False Creek?

U.S. couple seek travel warning for area besieged by temporary shelters

KRISTEN THOMPSON
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The American State Department has issued travel advisories to Iran, Afghanistan, Somalia and Haiti — but will it issue one for Vancouver?

An American couple living in False Creek North says they've alerted their government that the neighbourhood is unsafe, and is requesting it issue a travel advisory during the 2010 Games.

Deirdre Barlow, who is part of a group called Concerned Citizens of False Creek North, said residents are on edge after the city opened a shelter nearby, which she said is a magnet for crime.

"(Yesterday) I walked to the park and someone was shooting heroin," Barlow said.

"There are constant police arrests at the shelter, people walking around with weapons. One guy had a ball and chain … It's turned the neighbourhood upside-down."

The temporary shelter was one of five opened in Vancouver in the winter.

City Coun. Kerry Jang said it was kept open because it stayed full despite the warm weather, and that it's slated to close next week.

"The (shelters) were funded by the province until June 30," Jang said.

COURTESY DEIRDRE BARLOW

Police arrest a man outside a temporary shelter near Howe and Pacific streets.

"Crime is down about 30 per cent, and police say it's because of the shelters," he said. "You can imagine what will happen when (the shelter users) go back out."

"We asked the province for interim housing and want to move the shelter populations somewhere else."

As for the travel advisory, Jang said it's curious the American couple is only picking on False Creek North.

"Why aren't they issuing travel advisories to the Downtown Eastside?" he asked.

DTES' missing 69 **Not forgotten**

KRISTEN THOMPSON/METRO VANCOUVER

Vancouver artist Pamela Masik in Gastown yesterday, at the unveiling of Mona — the first of 69 paintings she created depicting missing Downtown Eastside women. Mona will be on display at the new Terminus building on Water Street. Story, pg 4

Would you like that apology with a smile?

ONLINE An Edmonton-area MLA who blogged that women shouldn't scowl because men don't like it among other controversial comments won't face further discipline after he apologized, Alberta's premier said yesterday.

Conservative MLA Doug Elniski got in trouble after he posted online the text of a speech he said he gives to graduating Grade 9 students.

"Men are attracted to smiles, so smile, don't give me that 'treated equal' stuff. If you want Equal, it comes in little packages at Starbucks," read the post.

Premier Ed Stelmach told reporters he is satisfied with Elniski's apology and said that the married father of three adult daughters is embarrassed. METRO VANCOUVER

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Golden Ears Bridge popular
Almost 330,000 vehicles have driven the Golden Ears Bridge in its first week of operation. The bridge handled an average of 47,000 vehicles daily during that time. METRO VANCOUVER

Local

TV producer heads to Vancouver

It's a bad time to engage in infidelity. Bobby Goldstein, producer of the TV show Cheaters, which used hidden cameras to catch people committing adultery, is bringing his production company to Vancouver. One of the projects the company will work on is Divorce Party, a quasi-reality show that provides the viewing audience an opportunity to decide who's at fault in the breakup of a marriage. METRO VANCOUVER

Bike lane trial set for July

Council to test Burrard Street Bridge conversion plan for three months

JEFF HODSON
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Vancouver hopes changing times and improved communication will curb the commuter chaos that kyboshed a previous attempt to convert a lane on the Burrard Street Bridge to cycling lanes.

The three-month trial, which begins July 13, will remove one southbound lane (from downtown to Kitsilano) to create a pair of bike lanes. There will be three lanes heading into downtown and pedestrians will be restricted to the western sidewalk.

A similar six-month trial in 1996 was scrapped after a single week because of public outcry.

COURTESY CITY OF VANCOUVER

An artist's rendering shows a dedicated bicycle lane in an upcoming lane re-allocation on the Burrard Bridge. The three-month trial begins July 13.

Vision Coun. Heather Deal said the previous trial was for a different lane and added the plan was implemented without adequate communication nor a queue-jumper lane for buses.

"It was setup for failure then," Deal said. "We're setting this one up for success."

The $1.4-million trial will provide data for a future decision regarding the 77-year-old bridge, which is slated to undergo $30 million in repairs in the next three years.

Widening sidewalks to accommodate six traffic lanes as well bike lanes and sidewalks would cost an additional $30 million.

Charles Gauthier, executive director of the Downtown Vancouver Business Improvement Association, argued that downtown traffic is already impacted by construction projects — including all of Granville Street to the Canada Line.

Girl, mother go to hospital after both bit by pit bull

DOG A young girl and her mother ended up in hospital after they were bitten trying to break up a fight between a pit bull and another dog.

The mother received stitches at Ridge Meadows Hospital where they were treated for their injuries.

"(The) pit bull was mistakenly let out of the house it was in," RCMP Cpl. A.L. Dunlop said, adding the animal then got into a fight with another dog.

"That ended when a young girl and her mother came out and tried to stop the dog fight, and the pit bull bit both people," Dunlop said. "The pit bull was then secured, while the other dog left the area."

"... A young girl and her mother came out and tried to stop the dog fight, and the pit bull bit both people."
RCMP Cpl. A.L. Dunlop

The owner of the pit bull was not at the scene of the incident.

While police are not pressing charges, the matter has been referred to the Maple Ridge bylaws department and the local S.P.C.A.

METRO VANCOUVER

Convicted murderer in custody after wife stabbed to death

CRIME A convicted murderer and prison activist is being held in custody after his wife — also a convicted murderer — was found stabbed to death in their Surrey home, police revealed yesterday.

Thomas Elton

Thomas Robert Elton, 54, is in custody on a parole violation while police investigate the murder of his 59-year-old wife, said RCMP Cpl. Dale Carr, a spokesman for the Integrated Homicide Investigation Team.

RCMP were called to an apartment building in the 14800 block of 104 Avenue at noon on Monday and found a woman dead. A man in the apartment was taken into custody.

Brenda Blondell

RCMP were not releasing the victim's name yesterday, but media reports identified her as Brenda Blondell, a paroled murderer and member of Strength in Sisterhood, an activist group that offers support to women in prison.

Carr said the victim was on parole for a 1987 murder in Burnaby.

No charges had been laid by press time yesterday and Carr said there was no rush as the suspect was being held for violating his parole.

Elton was convicted of a murder in 1975 while he was incarcerated at the Matsqui Institution.

JEFF HODSON/METRO VANCOUVER

News in brief

ASSAULT Vancouver Police are asking for help finding a man who followed a woman home and sexually assaulted her in the Dunbar area on May 30. When she opened her door, the man exposed himself and grabbed her, then ran off when she screamed.

VIGIL Bob Rae, MP for Toronto Centre, was expected to speak at the eighth consecutive Silent Scream rally outside the Vancouver Art Gallery last night. Thousands of people, including former mayor Sam Sullivan, have taken part in the candlelight vigil to honour those killed in protests in Iran.

CHARGES A West Vancouver man has pleaded not guilty to child pornography charges after police allegedly found sexually explicit videos of children at his home, news1130.com reports. Shayne Baker, 26, was arrested in April.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

metronews.ca
WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

Video Newfoundland man confesses to strangling his girlfriend for suspected cheating at **metronews.ca/canada**

Blogs Sexcetera on why the poor economy is fuel for infidelity and Hollywood Rants wonders if M. Night Shyamalan will find redemption in his latest flick

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Alice fans go through the looking glass at look-alike event
Alice in Wonderland enthusiasts in Vancouver are hoping to break a world record by having the largest gathering of people dressed as Alice ever assembled. The city's 15th annual Alice in Wonderland Festival will be held July 4 at English Bay. METRO VANCOUVER

Art honours slain women

KRISTEN THOMPSON
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Mona Wilson's face can be seen in the Downtown Eastside again for the first time since she went missing in 2001.

A giant painting of the woman — who was murdered by Robert Pickton — was unveiled in Gastown yesterday by Vancouver artist Pamela Masik.

Mona is the first of 69 massive paintings of missing inner city women to be unveiled by the local artist, who called the project "overwhelming."

"Some of the things I did early in the work were to re-enact the death of some of the women who were linked to the Pickton case," Masik said, explaining that in some cases she slashed the canvas. "It was almost as if I was birthing them and then recreating their death and then healing them, stitching them up."

Bruce Curtiss, manager of Vancouver ministries for Union Gospel Mission, said the project will have a "profound, immediate and lifelong effect on" women in the community. "As these paintings are revealed it's saying (we're) allowed to remember. We're allowed to feel and shed tears."

Masik has launched a program called The Creative Journey, which will be run out of the Union Gospel Mission, to allow women to express themselves through art.

Linda Westley, who has been a patron and volunteer at the Mission since 2003, said that by breathing life back into the 69 missing women, Masik has reaffirmed that they were important, and that they lived.

Run time

- The Creative Journey will run once a week for eight weeks starting next month.

KARL YU/FOR METRO VANCOUVER

Hockey players Jarome Iginla, front left, Hayley Wickenheiser, front centre, and Wayne Gretzky at the Westin Bayshore in Vancouver yesterday.

WOW — 2010 Games go wireless

KARL YU
for Metro Vancouver

VANCOUVER 2010 Games

If you don't have tickets to the 2010 Winter Olympics, the Games' wireless sponsor wants to ensure you still know who the winners are.

One of the innovations for 2010 is the Wireless Olympic Works (WOW) communications platform, which will be available on select Samsung smartphones via download.

"All of the Olympic content will be totally available to the public, so anyone who is on a Samsung (smartphone) can get real-time information," said Howard Thomas, director of corporate marketing for Samsung Canada.

Real-time results, game schedules and other winter Olympic-based information will be available, literally, in the palm of your hand.

Along with WOW, Samsung also announced its high-profile crop of ambassadors with some winning Olympic experience, Wayne Gretzky, Hayley Wickenheiser and Jarome Iginla.

Olympic clock site of another PETA seal hunt protest

DEMONSTRATION PETA once again used the 2010 Olympic Countdown Clock to protest Canada's seal hunt yesterday.

Protesters took to the streets on June 23, the day the Games were founded in 1894, to generate publicity. Five individuals painted their faces red and put their heads through a banner showing the rings of the Olympic logo.

"We're trying to draw attention to the seals who are bludgeoned to death on the ice," said campaigner Kate Brindle. "Until Canada puts an end to the baby seals killed, PETA will continue to expose the cruelty of this bloody tradition." METRO VANCOUVER

News in brief

WASHROOMS The Cactus Club Café in Victoria has B.C.'s best public restroom, according to Powder Room, which uses the annual washroom ratings to raise awareness of overactive bladder — a chronic medical condition. METRO VANCOUVER

CANADA'S ECONOMIC ACTION PLAN

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Conservation group buys land

The Nature Conservancy of Canada has acquired almost 60 hectares of land along the Bay of Fundy in New Brunswick as a way to protect local habitats, CBC News Online reports. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Canada

Prosecutor to leave genocide tribunal

The Canadian prosecutor at the genocide tribunal trying Cambodia's Khmer Rouge announced yesterday he is resigning, citing personal and family reasons, CBC News Online reports. In a statement, Robert Petit said his resignation will become effective Sept. 1, three years after he joined the United Nations-backed tribunal, which is holding its first trial. "It has been the greatest privilege of my career to have the opportunity to bring some justice to the victims of the crimes of the Khmer Rouge," Petit said. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Toronto **Big stink in Big Smoke**

ANDREW WALLACE/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Mayor David Miller gives media a strike update at Metro Hall. Tempers and temperatures were climbing all over the city, on the second day of a walkout by 30,000 inside and outside city workers, including garbage collectors.

Sisters standing up

Iranian women speak out after graphic shooting of protester

FERNANDO CARNEIRO and KRISTA SYLVESTER

"Iranian women are showing they too, have a voice ... Women are facing more pressure and this is symbolic as a cry for freedom." Goli, Calgary protester

Social media's capture of 27-year-old Iranian woman Neda Agha Soltan's graphic shooting death Saturday has given Iranians around the world a symbol of hope in the face of a violent crackdown on election protests by the current regime.

It has catapulted the struggle of Iranian women and their patriotic voice to the foreground; something they've been setting the stage for over three decades.

"For the last 30 years (Iranian) women were not quiet and used every occasion to raise their voices. Specifically over the last four years, they managed to mobilize resources to ask for equal rights and eliminate discrimination," said Mehrak Mehrvar, research associate at the UBC Women's and Gender Studies Centre.

Mehrak said Iranian women participated in the 1979 Iranian revolution and have gradually made human rights progress — culminating with a one-million signature campaign to support equal rights legislation.

"What we're seeing today is the result of the good work they've done over the past 30 years," Mehrak said.

Neda's sacrifice personifies the struggle of Iranian women and their willingness to stand up for themselves and their country — a sentiment echoed by protestors at a 200-plus rally in downtown Calgary Tuesday.

"Since her death she has become a symbol of brave women. Neda was only there to show support for her country and after her death, women are showing their support for Neda and taking a stand," protester Goli said.

"Iranian women are showing they too, have a voice."

Goli said Iranian women are facing more pressures than their male counterparts in their country and have more to gain by standing up to the corruption. "Women are facing more pressure and this is symbolic as a cry for freedom," she added.

Ottawa **Planning a trip**

CHRIS WATTIE/REUTERS

China's Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi meets with Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff in his office on Parliament Hill in Ottawa yesterday. Ignatieff announced a visit to China in September after meeting with the Chinese minister, who called for "vision and courage" in bilateral relations.

Judge slams home search

COURTS A sweeping search through the home of a suspected terrorist — including a drawer full of underwear belonging to his wife — violated the man's constitutional right to privacy, a Federal Court judge ruled yesterday.

Justice Simon Noël ordered the Canada Border Services Agency to return everything it seized during the seven-hour raid on the Ottawa home of 40-year-old Mohamed Harkat on May 12.

"The breach of Mr. Harkat's Charter rights was significant," Noël wrote in yesterday's ruling. "Mr. Harkat may have a diminished expectation of privacy, but that does not give the state a 'carte blanche' to unreasonably intrude on what privacy is left to him."

A spokesperson for Public Safety Minister Peter Van Loan said the government would review the decision carefully.

Sophie Harkat, 34, said she has felt like a different person since the day of the search.

"I don't have control over anything else except what goes on in my house, so it is very, very important to me to have my privacy and be in control of what goes on here. I lost control that night," she said yesterday.

Noël found that having male officers search through her underwear drawer was "unreasonable and surely not minimally intrusive."

Originally from Algeria, Harkat is one of five Muslim men the federal government is trying to deport using secretive immigration warrants called national security certificates.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

House arrest

- Harkat has been living under virtual house arrest for three years.

News in brief

BUST Mounties and border patrol have intercepted a shipment of peculiar weapons. In the bust made at the Edmonton International Airport last week, officers discovered 1,200 brass knuckles, 1,000 throwing stars, 500 blow guns with pinpoint darts with the potential for poison tips, 80 short-grip crossbows and numerous four-blade handheld weapons. Also taken during the seizure were Batman, Ironman and Transformer ceramic masks, believed to be counterfeit. VICTORIA HANDYSIDES/METRO CANADA

Voters not impressed with party tactics: Poll

POLITICS As talk of a fall federal election heats up, the Conservatives and Liberals are essentially in a dead heat, 32 to 31 per cent, pointing to yet another minority government, according to the latest Toronto Star/Angus Reid poll.

However, if voters have had one thing in common this past month it's that they didn't give high marks for momentum to any to the five political leaders because of the brinksmanship going on in Ottawa that narrowly avoided a dreaded summer election.

"The negative momentum score for all five leaders suggests that nobody connected with the public during the standoff," the results state, noting that Prime Minister Stephen Harper by far had the highest negatives numbers.

The political duelling between Harper and Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff is no contest so far with Harper outpointing him on being strong and decisive, managing the economy and honesty.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Edmonton mother gets stiffer sentence in baby's death after appeal

VICTORIA HANDYSIDES
Metro Canada

Uncontrollable sobs from Katrina Effert's parents echoed through a packed courtroom yesterday after a judge ruled she will serve a life sentence for the murder of her newborn son.

Court of Queen's Bench Justice Joanne Veit rejected defence lawyer Peter Royal's application for a mistrial, and said that though "juries, like judges, sometimes make mistakes," the proper avenue for a mistrial is the Court of Appeal.

"The situation is best described as tragic. One young life is lost, and another is in ruin," Crown prosecutor John Laluka said in court. In 2005, the baby was strangled to death with a pair of panties and tossed in a neighbour's yard.

A jury reached the verdict Saturday. It was the second time Effert was convicted of murdering her son. A retrial from her initial 2006 conviction was ordered after the Crown agreed the original judge erred while instructing the jury.

Effert is not eligible for parole for 10 years.

Ottawa marks first two deaths from H1N1 flu

TRACEY TONG
Metro Canada

Ottawa has had its first two deaths linked with influenza A (H1N1), also known as swine flu, including a teen male, Ottawa Public Health said yesterday.

The young male, who had tested positive for the virus, died over the last few days, said Ottawa's medical officer of health, Dr. Isra Levy.

Although Ottawa Public Health said the male also had underlying chronic health problems, Levy would not say what they were out of respect for the family.

A 52-year-old female from outside Ottawa who had also tested positive for H1N1 also succumbed while at the Ottawa Hospital over the last few days. There are 2,665 confirmed cases in the province and there have been 15 deaths.

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Liberals elated by defeat of Parti Québécois

Quebec's ruling Liberals said yesterday they were delighted by victories in two byelections that helped further damage the cause of separatist parties.

Monday's elections, held to fill vacancies in the provincial legislature, had been billed as an opportunity for Quebecers to vent their frustration with the Liberal government over how it was handling the economic crisis.

The Parti Québécois had high hopes of winning in the town of Riviere-du-Loup, where they ran a star candidate. But the loss there to the Liberals is another sign the party is having trouble putting across its message.

Jean Charest

"We are very happy with the results ... Quebecers spoke in one voice to ask the government to continue on the same course," Liberal Premier Jean Charest told a news conference in Quebec City.

The Liberals won a majority in last December's provincial election, with Charest saying he was the best leader to steer the province of 7.5 million through the recession.

Shortly after, the government was rocked by news that the province's main pension fund had racked up multi-billion-dollar losses. Critics also complained the Liberals underestimated the effects of the downturn. REUTERS

News in brief

BANKING Less than a year after rivals in New York and London collapsed or begged for bailouts, Canada's big five banks are churning out modest profits and minor writedowns, and are mulling which part of global banking they'd like to dominate — unless their famous prudence gets in the way. "The very same thing that caused them to suffer less — their caution, their conservatism — makes one hesitate before saying they're going to inherit the earth," said veteran Bay Street dealmaker Stanley Hartt, chairman at Macquarie Capital Markets Canada. REUTERS

Pupils can rate teachers online: Court

A German court ruled yesterday that schoolchildren may rate their teachers online, rejecting the case of a woman who argued her rights had been infringed by pupils who gave her bad grades on a popular website. REUTERS

World

Spacecraft studying moon

NASA's unmanned lunar spacecraft is now in orbit around the moon, the start of a mission to scout the moon's environment in preparation for future manned endeavours. The probe will map the moon's craters for permanently shadowed and sunlit regions, information useful for planning potential locations of a moon base. In 2006, NASA laid out its ambitious plans to send people back to the moon in 2020 and begin work on a lunar base in 2024. REUTERS

Californians caught off guard

Most expected progressive state to allow same-sex unions

GRAHAM WOOD
Metro World News

It seemed like there was hardly a fight left to put up over gay marriage. Rapidly, one by one, U.S. states began to lower their guard against same-sex unions: Connecticut, Vermont, Iowa, Maine and, most recently, New Hampshire, all in the first part of this year.

But then there was California. Supporters of gay marriage in California and around the country were nearly positive such a progressive state would never deny a minority what they considered a basic civil right.

Opponents expected the same.

And then everyone was blindsided: Proposition 8, denying gays the right to marry in that state, was upheld last year.

"My sense is that the supporters of marriage equality in California were a bit complacent and that they were quite surprised," said Lawrence Levine, a history professor at the University of the Pacific in Sacramento, Calif.

So what happens with those who are backed into a corner? They come out fighting.

"Sometimes it takes armed conflict ... sometimes a Supreme Court decision ... but we (Americans) do progress," said Chicago native Jack McClelland, who hoped California setting an example would pave the way for his home state of Illinois.

The Courage Campaign, an online advocacy group lobbying for legal gay marriage in California, is sending out letters to supporters telling them to get ready to go for a 2010 battle at the polls.

Prison riot leads to mass rape

CONGO Rioting inmates raped around 20 female prisoners during a failed prison break in Democratic Republic of Congo's violence-ravaged east, the country's UN mission said.

Two people were killed. With small budgets and poor facilities, Congolese prisons are generally overcrowded. Malnutrition and easily preventable illnesses are common. In many cases, soldiers, women and children are mixed in with the general inmate population. REUTERS

Obama strengthens tone on Iran

IRAN Iranian authorities said they would teach an exemplary lesson to "rioters" held in the worst unrest since the birth of the Islamic Republic, and accused Western powers yesterday of inciting the violence.

Riot police and Basij militia on Tehran's main squares warded off the mass protests that have marked the 11 days since disputed elections. Iran's hardline leadership appeared to have gained the ascendancy, at least for the moment.

The conflict, which has revealed unprecedented division in the religious leadership, began to play out on the diplomatic arena, with Britain so far bearing the brunt of Iran's anger.

Brits expelled

- Britain said two of its diplomats had been expelled from Iran yesterday. About 100 hardliners gathered in front of the British Embassy in Tehran, chanting, "British Embassy should be closed."

But that was before U.S. President Barack Obama, whose comments on Iran had been highly restrained, yesterday said the United States was "appalled and outraged" by Iran's crackdown. "I strongly condemn these unjust actions, and I join with the American people in mourning each and every innocent life that is lost," he said.

Iran's top legislative body rejected demands for a vote rerun from Mir Hossein Mousavi, who says the election was rigged REUTERS

Colombia **Shootout**

JAIME SALDARRIAGA/REUTERS

The wife of a murdered police officer waits with her baby outside the government forensic office in Cali yesterday. Leftist guerrillas attacked a vehicle carrying Colombian police on Monday, setting off a battle that killed seven officers and 25 rebels.

News in brief

SCAM Bernard Madoff's lawyer asked a judge to sentence Wall Street's biggest thief to a punishment of less than life in prison, saying the court should not give in to the "mob vengeance" sought by those he defrauded. Madoff "will speak to the shame he has felt" at his June 29 sentencing hearing, his lawyer wrote in a letter to the judge. REUTERS

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Eight Mennonites charged for rapes

BOLIVIA Eight men from a Mennonite community in Bolivia have been arrested and accused of raping at least 60 women from their farming settlement in the eastern Santa Cruz region, a prosecutor said yesterday. "We've been told that more than 60 women from the community (could have been raped). Possibly many more ... It seems this has been going on for about 10 years," prosecutor Freddy Perez said. REUTERS

Guard killed rival of Taliban leader

PAKISTAN A gunman working as a guard killed a rival of Pakistani Taliban leader Baitullah Mehsud yesterday, security officials said, dealing a blow to a Pakistani government plan to defeat al-Qaida ally Mehsud. The murdered commander, Qari Zainuddin, had recently spoken out strongly against Mehsud. REUTERS

U.S. drone hits Taliban funeral
A U.S. drone killed at least 45 Pakistani Taliban militants when it struck after a funeral of an insurgent commander killed earlier in the day. REUTERS

D.C. subway upgrade urged before crash

More bodies found; death toll rises to nine

Transit authorities in Washington, D.C., had been warned to upgrade older subway cars before a crash Monday that killed nine people, U.S. investigators said yesterday.

Federal officials investigating the crash, the deadliest in the 33-year history of Washington's Metro Area Transit Authority, said a 2006 warning to retire or modernize older subway cars like those involved in the crash went unheeded.

"We recommended to WMATA to either retrofit those cars or phase them out of the fleet. They have not been able to do that and our recommendation was not addressed," U.S. National Transportation Safety Board spokeswoman Debbie Hersman said at a news conference.

Seventy-six people were taken to hospitals after one train slammed into another that was stopped on above-ground tracks during the afternoon rush hour, Washington Mayor Adrian Fenty said.

A Metro news release later said the death toll rose to nine after more bodies were pulled from the wreckage.

The operator of the moving train was among those killed in the crash, which drove one train on top of the other.

Metro said it could take weeks or even months before the cause of the crash is determined.

The NTSB had urged the Metro system to replace older subway cars or upgrade their crashworthiness following a 2004 accident that injured 20 passengers, federal records show.

Metro spokesperson Lisa Farbstein said the car that struck the waiting train was among the oldest on the system and had been in service since Metro opened in 1976. REUTERS

YURI GRIPAS/REUTERS
Crews work at the scene where two transit trains were involved in a crash in Washington, D.C., on Monday.

Italian PM denies paying for sex

SCANDAL Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi has denied ever paying a woman for sex, as he faces growing political pressure over lurid allegations that he slept with a female escort who was paid to attend his parties.

"I've never understood what satisfaction there is other than that of conquering (a woman)," Berlusconi said in an interview with the Chi weekly owned by his Mondadori publishing empire.

"I've never understood what satisfaction there is other than that of conquering (a woman)."
Silvio Berlusconi

The popular prime minister's credibility has come under attack over a string of scandals related to his friendship with an 18-year-old girl and parties with young women, prompting him to angrily declare last week that he would not be forced out. But the opposition and the influential Catholic church have demanded that Berlusconi clear up the facts. REUTERS

New Yorkers supportive of same-sex marriage: Poll

U.S. New York State voters have shifted their support for the first time to a slim majority backing a law to allow same-sex couples to marry, Quinnipiac University said in a poll released yesterday.

The poll found 51 per cent of voters supported gay marriage versus 41 per cent who opposed it, with eight per cent undecided.

The poll was released as a bill seeking to legalize gay marriage languishes in the State Senate due to a leadership battle between Democrats and Republicans.

New York's State Assembly passed the bill on May 12, and Gov. David Paterson has vowed to sign it if it passes the Senate.

In May a Quinnipiac poll found voters split evenly at 46 per cent, while in April 2004 voters opposed gay marriage by a 55 to 37 per cent majority.

The release of the survey coincides with Gay Pride Week, marking the 40th anniversary of the Stonewall riots in New York City's Greenwich Village that triggered the modern U.S. gay-rights movement. The annual march through Manhattan is set for Sunday.

Forty-two U.S. states explicitly prohibit gay marriage, according to Human Rights Campaign, a gay-rights advocacy group. REUTERS

Britain sued over Kenyan torture

AFRICA Five Kenyans began legal action against the British government yesterday, accusing the former colonial power of torture during Kenya's fight for independence more than half a century ago. The five — three men and two women, all in their 70s and 80s — say they suffered castration, sexual abuse and severe beatings in detention camps administered by the British government and now want an apology and financial compensation.

Historians estimate as many as 150,000 suspected members of the Mau Mau, a resistance movement launched by Kenyan tribes, were detained without trial between 1952 and 1960 and placed in British-administrated camps. REUTERS

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Comment

Information lacking in Act

TheWestView

What is the point of the Freedom of Information Act?

Especially when it is used to cover up information?

The Defence Department in Ottawa recently refused to reveal the annual cost of the war in Afghanistan, citing section 15 of the Freedom of Information Act, which advises against disclosing any information which could... "... reasonably be expected to be injurious to the conduct of international affairs, the defence of Canada or any state allied or associated with Canada or the detection, prevention or suppression of subversive or hostile activities."

I'm not sure how any of that applies to the annual cost of the war in Afghanistan, especially because last year the military complied with an identical request and coughed up the figure of $1 billion — the first time the annual tally had reached that lofty height.

I can just see the Taliban braintrust holed up in a cave, trying to exploit the Canadian war budget.

"Hmm, maybe we should send this message out to all our brave warriors: The Canadian government is spending $1 billion a year to defeat you, but they are fools because Allah assures us of great victory, not to mention 72 virgins in paradise."

Or something along those lines.

Seriously, the only thing Section 15 is protecting is Stephen Harper's ample booty, which is pointless because it is already exposed on a number of fronts.

When a government elected on a promise of transparency trades in secrecy, you know it has exhausted its vitality — its moral mandate.

It has sealed its fate by choosing to hide behind a provision that was obviously designed to increase our security, not undermine it.

Make no mistake, the military's failure to disclose the ongoing cost of the conflict undermines our security by increasing the public's lack of trust in Ottawa's capacity for accountability.

In the immortal words of Pogo, that cartoon character from the mid-20th century, "We have met the enemy and he is us."

At least the Taliban have never bothered to pretend to have our best interests at heart.

If the Freedom of Information Act does not ensure government accountability when it engages in war on our behalf, it becomes a hollow, mocking shell of itself.

Freedom of information is the bedrock of democracy.

I don't know about you, but it sends shivers up my spine to learn that we will spend somewhere between $18 and $28 billion (the figure depends on who is doing the figuring) in Afghanistan by 2011 to preserve a tattered remnant of freedom in that sorry state, while busily suppressing it back here on the home front.

Paul Sullivan is a Vancouver-based journalist and owner of Sullivan Media Consulting; vancouverletters@metronews.ca.

MICHAEL DE ADDER

Worth mentioning

German city melts down over nuclear toy scare

A toy nuclear power plant built by two six year-olds sparked a public alert in Germany, only for authorities to discover the would-be security threat was the shell of a computer with a radiation warning sign stuck to it.

Fire services and police cordoned off several streets and told residents to stay indoors in the western town of Oelde after the two boys left their mock power station on the street when they went home for dinner.

"It wasn't a prank, they were just playing," a local police spokeswoman said yesterday. "The boys tried to go back later to carry on but the fire brigade wouldn't let them through."

The lockdown of the area began when a passer-by saw the metal object with the yellow and black symbol on it, took fright and alerted authorities, the spokeswoman said.

Police sent out warnings on local radio for residents to remain in their homes while a radiation detector was rushed to the scene to investigate the old computer casing and the warning sign, which the boys had printed out from the internet.

After the object had been identified, the boys' parents explained to police the children had gone out to "play nuclear power station" that evening, the spokeswoman said. REUTERS

Word on the street: Is the Harper government on the right track to get us out of the recession?

André Quesnel, age 32, Ottawa
A: No. I don't agree with the bailout.

Christiane Yerex, age 18, Toronto
A: No ... I've listened to a lot of things he's said, and I disagree with his opinions.

Shane Pecknold, age 37, Vancouver
A: There's a lot of overspending. It seems like there's no end in sight in regards to that.

Jon Heinrichs, age 29, Calgary
A: I think they are doing enough by not doing too much. I don't think we want to make over corrections.

Tony Giroux, age 18, Vancouver
A: I know there's going to be a huge deficit, so I don't know if that's the right thing to do.

Carmen Li, age 22, Vancouver
A: No, because I think it's stupid how they're thinking about having another election, which would cost us so much money.

Metro Online Poll Results

37% SAID YES

Should the federal Parliament scrap question period?
Weigh in on today's question at metronews.ca

63% SAID NO

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Lougheed Mall
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204B - 3430 Brighton Ave.

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Recession puts brakes on limo companies

U.S. limousine companies are laying off workers and closing offices as the recession cuts into demand for the shiny black symbols of wealth and power. Instead of using limos, corporate customers have been putting their executives onto taxis and buses. REUTERS

Business

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EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Breeding better vegetables

Monsanto, Dole focusing on taste, shelf life of fresh produce

Monsanto Co. and Dole Fresh Vegetables Inc. are formalizing a partnership to breed broccoli, spinach and other vegetables that would be more attractive to consumers.

The five-year collaboration, announced yesterday, will focus on creating variations of broccoli, cauliflower, lettuce and spinach, the companies said in a statement.

The focus of their efforts is to breed more colourful, tastier vegetables that are less susceptible to bruising and have a longer shelf life.

"If I buy broccoli on Saturday or Sunday and try to cook it on Wednesday, it'll get wilty," Monsanto spokeswoman Riddhi Trivedi-St. Clair said of one of reasons for the program.

She also stressed that these new variants will not be genetically modified like the company's corn seed and soybean products, a much larger operation for Monsanto.

Should new products be created under the collaboration, they could be sold by Dole in North America.

REUTERS

Business in brief

VERENEX A deepening confrontation between Libya and Canadian oil explorer Verenex is shedding light on the risk of doing business in the north African country as it emerges from years of sanctions. Libya is now investigating allegations that Verenex was improperly qualified to bid for stakes in Libya's oilfields in 2005, according to a letter received by Verenex.

ONLINE MySpace said yesterday it plans to cut about two-thirds of its international workforce and close at least four of its offices outside the United States. The proposed restructuring plan would reduce MySpace's international staff to about 150 people from 450, the company said in a statement.

REUTERS

Wireless giants protest federal airwave auction

INDUSTRY As new wireless companies prepare to launch in Canada in the coming months, Rogers Communications Inc., Bell Canada Inc. and Telus Corp. are accusing the federal government of unnecessarily meddling in a competitive market through last year's auction of airwaves, which set aside 14 per cent of available spectrum for new entrants.

The carriers argued in recent filings to Industry Canada that the approach encouraged "gaming," as prospective new players artificially drove up bids on airwaves that were available to everyone, knowing that the incumbents would be unable to respond.

Michael Hennessy, the senior vice-president of regulatory and government affairs for Telus, said the rich prices — the auction raised a record $4.26 billion — threaten to drag down the industry, which only recently began to generate positive cash flows after pouring billions into wireless infrastructure.

"This will push the industry back into a cumulative cash flow negative position for a number years," he warned.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Overpaying?

- Hennessy said Telus recently commissioned a study that found auction participants overpaid by as much as $2 billion for spectrum compared to what similar slices of airwaves have fetched in other countries.

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Obama to throw first pitch at all-star game

U.S. President Barack Obama plans to throw out his first pitch as president when he visits St. Louis next month. Obama will offer the ceremonial first pitch at the all-star game on July 14. Earlier this year he skipped traditional opening-day invites. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Sports

Babcock for Canada

Mike Babcock, left, will coach the Canadian men's hockey team at the 2010 Olympics in Vancouver according to numerous media reports. Columbus Blue Jackets coach Ken Hitchcock is expected to be on Babcock's staff. Babcock, 46, has a career coaching record of 282-139-71 in the NHL with 58 post-season victories. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: CHRIS.CLEMENTS@METRONEWS.CA

Recession not affecting plan to Own the Podium

MATTHEW WUEST
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VANCOUVER 2010 Games

OLYMPICS The economic climate has not put a dent in Canada's plan to own the podium at the Vancouver Olympics, according to Canadian Olympic Committee CEO Chris Rudge.

"Because of the excitement of having the Games at home, (Olympians) are drawing an awful lot more money than we've ever had in the system," Rudge said. "But whether we'd have more without the downturn, it's difficult to qualify."

The actual Own the Podium initiative — a collaborative effort involving national sport organizations, government and corporate sponsors — is unaffected by the downturn, Rudge said. That program puts $18,000 tax-free dollars in the pockets of 1,200 top athletes and $12,000 into those of 600 more.

"Own the Podium is fully funded through 2010," Rudge said. "Everyone is following through on their commitments. That program is not suffering at all."

Rudge did concede that non-carded athletes trying to self-fund could be affected by the economy. In fact, he knows first-hand. His daughter, Diane, is a half-pipe snowboarder, and, as he puts it, is "living off the bank of mom and dad."

"It takes a tremendous amount of sacrifice," said Rudge, of athletes in similar situations to his daughter's.

When asked if athletes for the 2012 Summer Olympics in London will be impacted negatively, Rudge said the financial support system will be much stronger than it was for Beijing in 2008. He said Vancouver 2010 has generated so much excitement that London 2012 is building off the momentum.

"The biggest legacy of these Games is going to be the creation of programs like Own the Podium," he said. "Better funded, better focused, setting goals, going in saying, 'We want to win.' That's something we didn't do in the past."

Sports in brief

MAN-RAM Manny Ramirez suited up for the Albuquerque Isotopes last night as he began his rehab stint after serving a 50-game suspension for violating baseball's drug rules. The slugger is expected to rejoin the Los Angeles Dodgers July 3. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Stellar class of inductees

Steve Yzerman, Brett Hull and Luc Robitaille, who won a Stanley Cup together with the Detroit Red Wings in 2002, were reunited yesterday when they were voted into the Hall of Fame.

HARRY HOW/GETTY IMAGES

Former Detroit Red Wings teammates Steve Yzerman, left, and Brett Hull were named as part of the 2009 class of inductees to the Hockey Hall of Fame yesterday. They'll be inducted on Nov. 9 along with Luc Robitaille, Brian Leetch and Lou Lamoriello, who will be inducted as a builder.

The 2009 class also included Brian Leetch, the first U.S.-born player to win the Conn Smythe Trophy as the Stanley Cup's Most Valuable Player, and New Jersey Devils president and general manager Lou Lamoriello.

The Red Wings trio will be led into the Hall by Yzerman, who spent his entire career in the Motor City. He guided Detroit to three Stanley Cups before retiring after 22 seasons as the sixth all-time leading scorer with 1,755 points.

Regarded as one of the best leaders to play in the NHL, Yzerman was the team's longest-serving captain (1986-2006).

He also won a Conn Smythe award and the Frank Selke Trophy as the top defensive forward.

Yzerman was a member of Canada's gold-medal winning side at the 2002 Salt Lake City Olympics and now, as general manager, has the task of assembling his country's team for the 2010 Vancouver Winter Games.

Hull joins his father, Bobby (Golden Jet) Hull, in the Hall. They are the only NHL father-son duo to record 600 goals and 1,000 points apiece.

Brett, like Bobby, was one of the league's most feared snipers, his total of 741 goals is third behind Wayne Gretzky (894) and Gordie Howe (801).

During a career that spanned 21 seasons, Brett also had stints with the Calgary Flames, St Louis Blues, Dallas Stars and Phoenix Coyotes. He won two Stanley Cups and a Hart Trophy as NHL MVP. REUTERS

Wimbledon Hometown hero

JULIAN FINNEY/GETTY IMAGES

Andy Murray of Great Britain serves during his first-round 7-5, 6-7, 6-3, 6-4 win over American Robert Kendrick yesterday on Day 2 of the Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Championships at the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club in London, England.

Blue Jays hold on to down Reds

BASEBALL Brian Tallet twirled six shutout innings of three-hit ball and was backed by three Toronto home runs in a 7-5 Blue Jays win against Cincinnati to open a three-game interleague set.

Tallet (5-4) struck out seven to just one walk before giving way to a shaky performance by the Jays' bullpen. The journeyman lefty has showed flashes of brilliance on the mound over his last four starts, but also inconsistency. METRO NEWS SERVICES

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More cars on U.S. roads in April

Travel on all U.S. roads and streets in April 2009 increased by 0.6 per cent compared with April 2008, according to the Traffic Volume Trends report issued by the U.S. Federal Highway Administration. Americans drove an estimated 249.5 billion miles, up 1.4 billion miles from April 2008. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Metro Drive

'10 Prius is here

The all-new 2010 Toyota Prius is on sale. The new model starts at $27,500, less than the 2009 model and is the lowest price ever for a Prius in Canada. Five trim levels are available.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: KUMAR SAHA, KUMAR.SAHA@METRONEWS.CA

Tacoma: Friend magnet

Toyota's handsome pickup gets the work done

NEIL MOORE
for Metro Canada

In his groundbreaking bestseller How to Win Friends and Influence People, Dale Carnegie omitted one key piece of advice: Buy a pickup truck.

Sure, it's important to smile, remember a person's name and be a good listener, but let it slip to friends and neighbours you just bought a pickup truck, and you'll never have to buy another six-pack of beer.

Sure there are alternative modes of transport, but do you really want to strap a load of two-by-fours on to the roof of your $60,000 SUV? How about sliding a pile of interlock and concrete slabs into the back of your plush, carpet-lined minivan?

My tester for the week — the 2009 Toyota Tacoma 4x4 Double Cab — came in metallic grey with TRD (Toyota Racing Development) badging on the sides.

I have always found the Tacoma to be a handsome truck. Unlike many "compact" pickups, it does have a presence, and with its big P265/65R mud & snow tires on 17-inch alloys, not to mention the optional hood scoop, the Tacoma looked every bit the serious off-roader. Not that I was headed for the bush anytime soon.

And at nearly 19 feet long and only about eight inches shorter than a full-size Chevrolet Silverado 1500 4x4 Crew Cab, I'm not sure if "compact" fairly describes the Tacoma.

I won't say the Tacoma is as spacious in back as a full-size sedan, but there's reasonable room for two adults, three in a pinch.

The Tacoma is available in eight models, starting with the 4x2, four cylinder Access Cab to the 4x4 V6-powered Double Cab. There's even a 4x2 "tuner"styled truck called the X-Runner, that sits low to the ground and is powered by the same V6 with a six-speed manual.

Up front, the Double Cab is outfitted with sedan-like comforts and amenities. The optional sport seats are comfortable and well-bolstered, and provide a driver's seat lumbar adjustment. The optional leather-wrapped steering wheel includes audio controls for the in-dash six-disc CD changer, part of the TRD Sport Package.

With the automatic, the SR5 Power Package bumps the Tacoma to $33,300 and adds 16-inch alloys with wheels locks, sliding rear window, cruise control, chrome grille and rear bumper, dual vanity mirrors, auto-dimming rear view mirror with integrated backup camera, keyless entry and more.

I didn't get a chance this time to take the Tacoma off-road, but our streets and highways offered no shortage of potholes and heaved pavement to test the suspension.

Big and surefooted, the Tacoma 4x4 V6 Double Cab is equally at home taking passengers around town, on the job site and off-road.

2009 Toyota Tacoma Double Cab

Type: Mid-size, four-door pickup truck
Price: (base) $30,870, (as tested with TRD package) $35,980
Engine: 4.0-litre DOHC 24-valve, V6 (236 hp, 266 lb/ft torque)
Fuel economy: 13.4 L/100 km city; 10.1 L/100 km highway

Highlights

- Sedan-like comforts and amenities
- Off-roading capabilities

Easy-to-use controls and metallic accents are among the many features that give the Tacoma a very car-like interior.

Lexus has introduced a new Head-Up Display (HUD) that projects essential information onto the base of the windshield.

Lexus adds HUD to windshield

TECHNOLOGY Lexus has targeted an advanced, yet user-friendly, design for the cockpit of the new RX 450h with a focus on making key vehicle data and controls easy to access with minimum driver distraction.

A key element in Lexus' innovative approach is the new Head-Up Display (HUD), which projects essential information on to the base of the windscreen, within the driver's field of vision.

Using technology that was originally developed for use in fighter jets, HUD presents vehicle speed, turn-by-turn arrow navigation instructions, audio information and warnings from the Adaptive Cruise Control (ACC) and Pre-Crash Safety (PCS) systems.

The system, provided as standard on SE-L Premium versions of the RX 450h, is easy to use and can be switched on and off. The display position and lighting intensity can be adjusted in line with ambient lighting conditions, using control switches alongside the steering wheel.

FROM CARGUIDE

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Auction for a cause

Ontario-based RM Auctions will present two factory-original 2005 Ford GT models at events this summer, Canadian Driver reports. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation through the Ford Motor Company's Global Walk Team. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Wheels were made for rockin'

Our family has its share of arguments in the car. No more or less than the average, I guess, if the average is around three per city block.

We parents figure this is good thing. You can't learn sarcasm too early.

We often fight about what music to play on the stereo. I'm OK with this, because it only demonstrates that people are passionate about music, and how essential music is to the automotive experience.

Volvo once trotted out some research, that noted that many people have their most intense "musical experiences" in a vehicle. Researches cited the enclosed confines of the car, which tends to focus the experience, and that these days the times behind the wheel are simply the most convenient for music listening. Combine that with the killer sound systems in today's cars, and you can see why a vehicle has replaced the rec-room as the prime music grooving venue.

But my theory is that car travel, especially if you're a passenger, doesn't require your dominating and logical side of the brain, the one you use when you fill out your income tax online.

This lets your creative brain off the leash, the one that tends to meander down various garden paths, and creates those weird but fascinating dreams — like that one where you are suddenly on the subway with a pet monkey and neither of you were wearing pants.

I think this part of your brain listens and responds to music differently ... probably more profoundly. It's why watching the landscape roll by with Neil Young pounding away through the rear speakers is such a contemplative and satisfying experience, and one that's hard to replicate any other way.

Volvo once trotted out some research that noted that many people have their most intense "musical experiences" in a vehicle, columnist Michael Goetz writes.

Then again maybe all your road tunes just have really good back beats.

Of course, the genre of music that is most tied up with the automobile is rock 'n' roll. Teenage car culture took off in pre-war America almost simultaneously with the birth and rise of the so-called "devil's music." They couldn't help but influence each other, because they essentially went to the same high school and hung out in the same parking lots.

And the first rock 'n' roll recording is generally considered to be 1951's Rocket 88. Introduced in 1949, the Oldsmobile Rocket combined the small, lighter body of the Olds 76, with a new powerful V8, becoming a precursor to the muscle car, and a perennial NASCAR champion.

Ike Turner and his band came up with the tune, and the legendary producer, Sam Philipps, recorded them doing the number at his legendary Sun Studio in Memphis.

The recording is also one of the first to feature a distorted guitar sound, now a crucial element of rock and roll tone. Legend has it, that the sound came about because the guitar player's amplifier was compromised on the car ride from Mississippi. The amp either fell off the roof, or suffered rain damage in the trunk. Either way, Philipps liked how it sounded.

Probably for the same reasons people liked the sound of that Rocket V8 — compelling, and a little rough around the edges.

Michael Goetz has been writing about cars and editing automotive publications for more than 20 years. He lives in Toronto with his family and a neglected 1967 Jaguar E-type.

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Cadillac unveils CTS Sport wagon

Cadillac's first-ever North American wagon is a progressive take on the classic wagon body style that delivers significant functionality and fuel efficiency, including up to an estimated 11.9 km/litre highway.

The CTS Sport Wagon is essentially the same size as the acclaimed CTS sport sedan on the outside. However, the new Sport Wagon nearly doubles carrying capacity, with 25 cubic feet (720 litres) of space behind the rear seats; and 53.4 cubic feet (1,523 litres) with the rear seat folded.

One of the more interesting integrations of form and function is the seamless roof load management system. Rather than stylized stanchions, brackets and cross bars that protrude above the roofline, the CTS Sport Wagon's system blends with the roofline, maintaining an uninterrupted appearance.

The centre section of the roof panel angles downward inside the roof edges, allowing an unobtrusive placement of the cross bars — and creating a subtle fin effect at the trailing edges of the rear panels.

The interior of the Sport Wagon is common with the sedan, including streamlined instrumentation, LED lighting and hand-cut-and-sewn accents with French stitching.

Direct injection (DI) technology is integral to the CTS Sport Wagon. It maintains fuel economy and lowers emissions, while improving power. DI delivers fuel more precisely to increase the efficiency of combustion.

This means less fuel is consumed and lower emissions created; it also reduces cold-start emissions by up to 25 per cent.

FROM CARGUIDE

The 2010 Cadillac CTS Sport Wagon will offer a choice of V6 engines and optional all-wheel-drive.

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Metro Workology exclusive: Head to Toe
In the coming weeks Metro's Workology section will be setting its sights on the health industry and all jobs and careers therein. So be sure to read Workology and Metronews.ca/work for the special Head to Toe series.

Workology

McMaster turns down land

McMaster University, in Hamilton, Ont., has declined a $2 million gift of downtown Hamilton land on which to build its family health centre. University officials told the Toronto-based developer who offered McMaster nearly 40,000 square feet of open land that they were more interested in considering other properties where there is potential to expand. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

Building strength and fitness

Conditioning coach wants to push people to achieve beyond their limits

Head to **Toe**

RAFAEL BRUSILOW
for Metro Canada

If a great workout is what you're after, Tyler Lees-Schmut's job is to sure you get the butt-kicking — and the results — you deserve.

As a strength and conditioning coach at the Dynamic Conditioning Centre in Toronto, Lees-Schmut, 24, teaches clients to find fitness and confidence in themselves by helping them conquer workouts designed for their unique bodies.

"It's all about noticing imbalances in a person's body and paying attention to them and being able to modify an exercise to suit each person," he said.

Whether it's helping hockey players beef up their quads or pushing office workers to strengthen their slouching backs, Lees-Schmut doesn't mess around — he wants to push your body to its limits so you can learn to go beyond them.

He says some of his most rewarding work has been with clients who don't think they can handle vigorous exercise or truly achieve meaningful results because with the right coaching, they can. Just because a buff hardbody in the corner of the gym can pull a truck tire across the floor or dead-lift a full keg over their head doesn't mean you should feel discouraged.

"Some people have a misconception that strength trainers are, to use a single word, 'meatheads' — the misconception is that it doesn't take a lot of smarts to be a trainer. That's not true at all."
Tyler Lees-Schmut

"A lot of people come in and see someone doing something tough and they say, 'Oh, I could never do that.' Well you'd be surprised at what you can do," Lees-Schmut said.

Lees-Schmut says his father was his biggest influence growing up, motivating him to play sports and enjoy physical activity.

"I owe my dad a lot for sure — he got me into sports as a kid. There's just an innate passion for moving in me and seeing what the human body can do," he said.

The biggest challenge for Lees-Schmut is not actually related to his expertise or work with clients but rather with public perceptions of what his job entails.

"Some people have a misconception that strength trainers are, to use a single word, 'meatheads' — the misconception is that it doesn't take a lot of smarts to be a trainer. That's not true at all. We have to know a lot, we have to have those smarts to do our job correctly," Lees-Schmut said.

Lees-Schmut finished a four-year program at George Brown College in Toronto where his studies were split between physiology and practical experience. He credits the practical focus of his college education with giving him the preparation to succeed in his field.

"What's great about the city colleges is that they're known for giving you plenty of practical experience before your graduation that really gets you ready for employment," he said.

Lees-Schmut loves a challenge and finds satisfaction in being acknowledged by the people he helps get fit.

"It's a huge reward, to hear an athlete say your training was a big reason for their success."

RAFAEL BRUSILOW/FOR METRO CANADA

Tyler Lees-Schmut is a strength and conditioning coach at Toronto's Dynamic Conditioning Centre.

Workout tips

Thinking of starting a workout? Lees-Schmut offers a few tips:

- Most people who sit at a computer for long hours have weak hamstrings and frail, slouching backs – give some attention to strengthening these areas before embarking on a full-out regimen.
- Tell your trainer or coach about any physical issues you may have — they can modify exercises to ensure your avoid injury while still getting a great workout.
- Cardio work is great but deadlifts – lifting a heavy barbell off the floor – actually expend more energy in the course of a workout. However, make sure you strengthen your back and legs before attempting deadlifts.

–RAFAEL BRUSILOW/ FOR METRO CANADA

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Workology in **brief**

UNEMPLOYMENT Canada's unemployment rate rose to its highest level in 11 years, as 42,000 more jobs were lost in May, according to Statistics Canada. While Ontario accounts for 39 per cent of Canada's total working-age population, it has suffered 64 per cent of the country's overall employment losses since the beginning of the labour market downturn. Large declines occurred in full-time employment, with 59,000 job cuts, while part-time employment rose with 44,000 new part-time hires. On a positive note, the hourly wage for employees was 3.4 per cent higher in May as compared to 2008.

FNUC FUNDING The federal government is withholding $2.4 million in funding from the First Nations University of Canada — which has campuses in Saskatoon, Regina and Prince Albert — until the beleaguered institution implements major changes.

–HEATHER BUCHAN/ FOR METRO CANADA

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Red Deer College opens four new centres
Red Deer College held an opening ceremony last Thursday for four new facilities — the Centres for Trades & Technology, Innovation in Manufacturing, Corporate Training, and Visual Art. METRO NEWS SERVICES

No recipe for plastic surgery

Kanata, Ont.,-based Dr. James Lacey got into plastic surgery because of the practices' creative potential, he says.

Head to **Toe**

BRIAN COULTON
for Metro Canada

When thinking of a metaphor for the operating room, "kitchen" isn't likely the first thing that comes to mind.

But surgery is often just like a recipe, according to Dr. James Lacey. "If you think of orthopedics — having your hip or knee done — literally, the surgeon will tell you, 'This is what I do. This is what can happen.' and 10 minutes later, the patient's out of there, because they have a recipe," says the Kanata, Ont.,-based plastic surgeon, 39. "In plastic surgery, there's no recipe."

Lacey has practised for 10 years, now operating out of Kanata Plastic & Cosmetic Surgery, where he performs a variety of procedures for injured hands and cosmetic surgeries like facelifts, breast augmentations and liposuction.

Initially intrigued by anatomy and microsurgery, Lacey segued into plastics when he was galvanized by surgery's creative potential.

"The microsurgery, which is the small anatomy where you can attach small blood vessels, is what attracted me," he says, "I enjoyed the finesse, artistry and creativity."

He also enjoys the empathetic approach he says doctors in his line of work must have. Lacey's bottom line is making sure his patients are happy, he says. "It's not just like having your hip done where you can tell them to go to their family doctor to have the staples taken out. We are there throughout the healing phase."

That individualized care matches the specialized process Lacey says separates plastic surgery from other kinds. "We have techniques, but the breast that walks in looks different from the next breast that walks in. It's not like just making a knee ligament or replacing a joint."

It's also not the kind of thing just any physician can perform. Lacey says the horror stories are seldom coming out of offices like his. A point, he says, that is often overlooked is "it's the general practitioners, ear, nose and throat doctors and dermatologists who are doing liposuction and breast augs who never did it in residency and they took a weekend course."

Such educational brevity is far less than the required schooling to become a plastic surgeon in Canada. Karyn Wagner, executive director of the Canadian Society of Plastic Surgeons says, "In order to become a plastic surgeon, a physician must be certified by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons in plastic surgery." Wagner says that certification can only come after doctors who have already finished medical school complete a five-year plastic surgery residency, plus written and oral exams.

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Half of Canadians find education system inadequate

According to a recent Harris-Decima poll, almost 50 per cent of Canadians believe that the country's education system does not adequately prepare young people for work in the modern economy. METRO NEWS SERVICES

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Rights claims are no longer garden variety

WorkplaceLaw

Daniel Lublin

metronews.ca/workplacelaw

Canadian employers have historically taken an ignorant view of human rights tribunals and their often remarkable decisions. But that may be about to change. Because of sweeping changes to human rights legislation and left-leaning adjudicators directed to interpret remedial legislation, such as employment standards and human rights laws, in a broad and inclusive manner, employers should not be so unconcerned. Here is one case that illustrates this.

Michele Schmor's legal odyssey began with a seasonal job working in retail for Stonechurch Vineyards, a Niagara-on-the-Lake winery. Soon after returning from a vacation, she was asked by a co-worker, Lisa Edlington, if she had sunbathed topless. When Schmor said that she did, but only in private places. According to Schmor, shortly after, Edlington suggested that she climb the pole in front of the store and "slide down it like a stripper."

Although Schmor said this made her uncomfortable and embarrassed, she did not express her concerns to Edlington or mention the matter to anyone in management. Instead, she complained to several other employees, one of whom promptly reported the incidents to the company.

Shortly after learning that Schmor was uncomfortable with Edlington's remarks, Stonechurch stopped scheduling her shifts. Without work for several weeks, Schmor emailed the company stating she would like to continue working but was tersely told by a company representative that she would not be called back for the summer and that she wouldn't be given a reason why.

Schmor complained to the Ontario Human Rights Tribunal that she had been sexually harassed and then fired in reprisal. In considering her case, adjudicator Lorne Slotnick found that Edlington's comments did not amount to sexual harassment, as they lacked an element of harassment. However, not having offered a reasonable explanation for Schmor's termination, Stonechurch was ruled to have fired her in reprisal for having complained. Once management knew Schnor was offended by the comments, her days were numbered, Slotnick wrote in his recent decision.

Clear Message

The message from these cases is clear: Workplace discrimination and harassment may often be in the eyes of the beholder. With varying views of the types of conduct and comments that will attract liability, both employers and employees should consider the following advice:

- Report incidents of harassment when they first occur rather than allowing them to fester;
- Ensure a zero tolerance policy for jokes based on gender or sex and;
- Bulletproof existing human resources policies.

Daniel A. Lublin is an employment lawyer focusing on the law of dismissal; dan@toronto-employmentlawyer.com.

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Travel

Postage from the past

The world's first postage stamps — known as the Penny Black and the Twopenny Blue, both of which feature the image of a young Queen Victoria — form the centrepiece of a new exhibition at the Canadian Museum of Civilization. Her Majesty's Stamps consists of more than 400 items from the Royal Philatelic Collection, considered the finest collection of British and Commonwealth stamps in the world. See civilization.ca. METRO NEWS SERVICES

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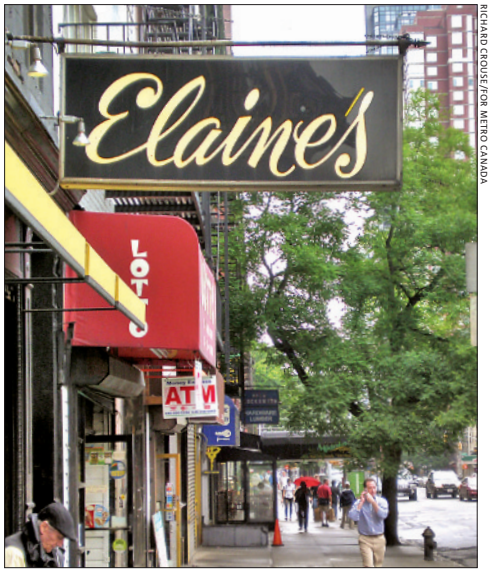
'It's really a knockout, you know?'

Seeing New York through the eyes of Woody Allen

RICHARD CROUSE
for Metro Canada



RICHARD CROUSE/FOR METRO CANADA

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICES

Above, Woody Allen and Diane Keaton in classic scene from the 1979 movie Manhattan. Below, Elaine's, the setting for one of Allen's most famous one-liners.

Long before I saw the Statue of Liberty in person I felt like a New Yorker. Woody Allen's movies were my initiation and his romantic, idealized view of the Big Apple planted the seed for my longtime love of the city.

His latest film, Whatever Works, is the first of Allen's films to be set in Manhattan in four years, and you get the sense he's glad to be home. It's his love letter to the city, showcasing only-in-New-York locations like Chinatown's fish markets and the Yonah Schimmel Knishery (137 E. Houston St. near 1st Ave., 212-477-2858).

The movie will make you want to jump on a NYC-bound plane ASAP, which is exactly what I did. There are no official Woody Allen tours of Manhattan, so I created my own daytrip to see Allen's New York with my own eyes. With a good pair of runners, a map, a Metrocard (get a 1-Day Fun Pass for $7.50 US at MetroCard Vending Machines and neighborhood stores) and some determination you should be able to do this tour in about six hours.

The first stop serves a double purpose. The Dean & Deluca Café (560 Broadway at Prince St. in SoHo, 212-226-6800) is the perfect place to fuel up on coffee to get the day started — it's also where Mia Farrow has lunch with the newly-single Judy Davis in Husbands and Wives.

Now that you're in a caffeinated, New York state of mind, exit Soho for the funkier streets of Greenwich Village.

You'll pass the former home of The Bleecker Street Cinema (144 Bleecker St.) — where Allen's character takes his niece to see movies that will improve her mind in Crimes and Misdemeanors — on your way to his favorite pizza joint, John's Pizzeria (278 Bleecker St. in Greenwich Village, 212-243-1680).

John's Pizzeria is also the place where Allen and his much younger girlfriend, played by Mariel Hemingway, have the "in six months you'll be a completely different person" conversation in 1979's Manhattan.

Moving north, our next stop is in midtown. The Carnegie Deli (854 Seventh Ave. between 54th and 55th streets, 212-757-9889) is virtually unchanged since Woody shot much of Broadway Danny Rose here in 1984.

In fact it hasn't changed much since it opened in 1937 and Henny Youngman was a regular.

Take some time to check out the autographed pictures of celebrities who have eaten there, and if you have the appetite of three people order The Woody Allen — "Lotsa corned beef plus lotsa pastrami; for the dedicated fresser only!" says the menu, and it's not kidding. There's over a pound of meat between two slices of rye. Next, walk off the sandwich with a jaunt to the St. Regis-Sheraton Hotel (2 E. 55th St., 212-753-4500).

Read more on page 22 »

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Strange sights

Once you've decided on a destination check out the Atlas Obscura at atlasobscura.com to make sure you don't miss out on the area's stranger attractions. You don't want to be the travller who went to Iceland and forgot to stop by the Phallological Museum. **TRAVEL.AOL.CA**

Rather sporting **Paille Maille, anyone?**

OLI SCARFF/GETTY IMAGES

For the first time in 400 years, a game of Paille Maille is played on London's Pall Mall (in front of Buckingham Palace) by players dressed in period costume. In the 17th century, the pastime was so popular in the area that it eventually bequeathed its name to the street.

Low hotel prices here to stay?

ACCOMMODATION As U.S. hotels try to lure a shrinking number of business and leisure travelers, the industry appears to have adopted a new motto — "Better cheap than empty."

But as hotels slash rates and offer sweet deals to fill empty rooms during the recession, they may regret their largess if customers get permanently spoiled by cheap lodging.

"There will be a resetting of rates and rate expectations for the foreseeable future," said Bjorn Hanson, lodging industry expert at New York University. "Even less expensive hotels will have to compete on rate more than they have already."

Average daily rates have dropped eight per cent year over year for the U.S. hotel industry, according to PKF Consulting, and major hotel operators have made it easier for their rewards program members to rack up points and free nights.

Through August, Marriott International is offering one free night with three paid stays at certain hotels. Starwood Hotels & Resorts is offering a free weekend night for every two paid nights through September, with no blackout dates.

Offers like these can recalibrate what leisure travelers expect to pay for travel and hotels, some experts say.

Compounding the problem, many companies are — or soon will be — negotiating corporate hotel rates for up to three years. As market prices falter, those companies will lock in lower rates by reserving facilities for future conventions and meetings.

The challenges to leisure and business travelers' room rates do not bode well for hotels' revenue per available room (RevPAR). By some estimates, RevPAR, the industry's key metric of profitability, won't reach last year's levels until 2013, well after the point where analysts expect the resumption of economic growth.

Hotels can close off rooms and floors, but they don't have the level of flexibility to cut capacity that airlines and cruise lines enjoy. **REUTERS**

Allen's romanticized view of life in New York City

›› Continued from page 21

Woody has used this location twice. This is where Michael Caine and Barbara Hershey carried on their covert love affair in Hannah and Her Sisters and, in Radio Days, the hotel's King Cole Room (with its Maxfield Parrish Art Nouveau mural behind the bar) was the site of the swanky New Year's celebration Joe Needleman listened to on the wireless.

The next stop is the location of one of Allen's most iconic New York images. The poster for Manhattan showing Woody and Diane Keaton sitting in silhouette on a bench was shot at Riverview Terrace on Sutton Square, just beneath the 59th Street Bridge.

It looks a little different than it did in 1979. The bench is gone (stolen by Woody fans perhaps?) and the landscape is a little different but the view is still spectacular.

You've seen the movies and the sights, now catch a glimpse of the Wood-man in person. Allen and his clarinet have been blowing up a Dixieland storm on Monday nights (from September to June) at the Café Carlyle (35 E. 76th St. on the northeast corner of Madison Avenue, 212-744-1600) since 1996.

Reservations and jackets are required and tickets ($100 for the show, dinner is extra) go quickly so book ahead for the toe-tapping fun.

Not quite as exclusive or as pricey is Elaine's (1703 Second Ave. between E. 88th and E. 89th St., 212-534-8103), which restaurant writer A. E. Hotchner summed up with the words, "What Rick's place was to Casablanca, Elaine's is to New York."

On film it's the location of one of Allen's most famous one-liners: In Manhattan, he's at Elaine's complaining about the difficulties of seeing a 17-year-old. "I'm dating a girl who does homework," he says.

Off-screen, it's one of his favorite restaurants. "I ate at Elaine's every night for about 10 years," he said. "I've eaten alongside everyone from Don King to Simone de Beauvoir. There was no celebrity that didn't show up there."

One of the celebrities who ate there was Mia Farrow, who asked Michael Caine to introduce her to Woody one night at the restaurant, thus beginning their long and tumultuous affair. Soak in that storied atmosphere for the price of an entrée.

The tour finishes with a trip to Pomander Walk, (260-266 W. 95th St. through to 94th Street between Broadway and West End Avenue). This beautiful village — built to resemble the London stage set from a romantic 1910 play — is made up of 27 Tudor-style houses and is the location of the architectural tour Sam Waterston gives Dianne Wiest and Carrie Fisher in Hannah and Her Sisters.

You'll have to peek through the gate (it's locked to the public) but its Alice in Wonderland aura and the fact that Humphrey Bogart used to live there make it a must-see for movie fans.

By the tour's end you'll see why Isaac Davis, Woody Allen's character in Manhattan, famously said, "This is really a great city. I don't care what anybody says, it's really a knockout, you know?"

The Carnegie Deli was the setting for much of Broadway Danny Rose. Visitors can also order the Woody Allen — "Lotsa corned beef plus lotsa pastrami; for the dedicated fresser only!"

Diaz joins Hollywood Walk of Fame

Cameron Diaz has been given a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. The My Sister's Keeper actress celebrated the honour with friends Lucy Liu, Tom Cruise, Katie Holmes, Nick Cassavetes and Danny Boyle yesterday. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

Entertainment

Price of Beauty

Starting in July, Jessica Simpson will travel the globe talking to everyday women about the lengths they go for beauty for a new VH1 docu-series called The Price of Beauty. PEOPLE.COM

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●●○ EXCELLENT; ●●●○○ GOOD; ●●○○○ FAIR; ●○○○○ POOR

Disappointing return

Visually spectacular Transformers sequel exhausting to watch

Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen

Director: Michael Bay
Stars: Shia LaBeouf, Megan Fox
Classification: 14A
Rating: ●○○○○

NED EHRBAR
for Metro Canada

REVIEW Michael Bay's sequel to his 2007 international mega-hit Transformers is massive, loud and unrelenting. As a film, it's exhausting to watch, with every square inch of screen filled with over-saturated colour and a soundtrack clanging, scraping and rumbling nonstop.

In its defense, the visual effects appear to be spectacular, but Bay can't seem to let the camera rest for a second, making the scenes of giant alien robots doing battle confusing and hard to follow. Even in a simple, supposedly touching scene of dialogue between our hero Sam (Shia LaBeouf) and his girlfriend (Megan Fox), Bay's camera won't stop circling around them at a distracting pace.

Much like the first film, Revenge of the Fallen suffers from trying to stuff in too much of everything — too many Transformers (especially the similar-looking Decepticons), too many humans with too many subplots, too many attempts at humour — pushing it to an undeserved two-hour-plus running time.

The dialogue in the film breaks down into three categories: Yelling and shouting, summarizing the plot, or broad, sometimes offensive attempts at humour. In a story where the humans basically tag along with giant robots and try not to get killed, apparently everyone gets to be the comic relief.

And the film's humour — besides all the references to testicles — tends too often to veer off into the patently offensive, embodied more than anywhere else in a pair of Autobots who shuck and jive their way into a gold-toothed, illiterate robot rendition of Amos and Andy.

That anyone involved with the production thought it would be OK is remarkable. The performances make Jar Jar Binks of Star Wars: Episode I seem classy and sophisticated in retrospect.

What's most surprising — and disappointing — about this new Transformers is not that it came from Michael Bay, but that it came from the same screenwriters who brought us this summer's earlier Star Trek. We know what they're capable of, and that just makes it that much more disappointing.

● Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen photos, a trailer and screen times, visit metronews.ca/movies.

Transformers screen times

- Oakridge: Wed-Thu 7-10:20
- Scotiabank Theatre Vancouver: Wed-Thu 11:15-11:45-12:10-2:50-3:20-3:40-6:30-7-7:20-10:10 -10:40-11
- Van East Cinema: Wed-Thu 6:30-9:30
- Park & Tilford: Wed-Thu 2:45-3:15-6:30-7-9:55-10:30
- Richmond Centre 6: Wed-Thu 4:10-7:30
- SilverCity Riverport: Wed-Thu 11-11:30-12:35-3-3:30-4:10-7-7:30-8-10:30-11-11:30. IMAX Wed-Thu 10:40-2-5:20-8:40-11:55
- Dolphin Cinemas: Wed-Thu 1-4-7-9:45
- SilverCity Metropolis: Wed-Thu 11:30-11:45-12-3-3:15-3:30-6:45-7-7:20-10:30-10:40-11
- SilverCity Coquitlam: Wed-Thu 11:35-12-12:30-1-3:10-3:30-4-4:30-6:45-7-7:30-8:05-10:05-10:25-10:55
- Strawberry Hill Grande: Wed-Thu 11:30-12-12:30-3-3:30-4-6:30-7-7:30-9:50-10:30-10:50
- Studio 12 Guildford: Wed-Thu 11:45-12:15-12:45-3:15-3:45-4:15-6:45-7:15-7:45-10:15-10:45-11:15
- Criterion 4 White Rock: Wed-Thu 7-9:40
- Colossus Langley: Wed-Thu 11:30-12-12:30-3-3:30-4-6:30-7-7:30-10:15-10:45-11:15. IMAX Wed-Thu 10:40-2-5:20-8:40-11:55
- Twilight Drive-In: Wed-Thu 9:45
- Complete listings are available at metronews.ca/movies.

Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen is in theatres today.

VA	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime 6/24/09	251	308	3 CBC	Coronation St.	Jeopardy! (N)	Dragon's Den (CC)		10 Marias: 1 Year Later (N)		CBC News: The National (N)		(:05) The Hour
	255	358	6 JOY	E! News (N)	The Insider	Psych (N) (CC)		D. Richards	Kendra (CC)	Kardashians	Candy Girls	News (N)
	254	-	8 M	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Omni News: Mandarin Edition		News: Cantonese Edition		Omni News: Punjabi Edition		Metropia
	250	321	9 CTV	etalk (CC)	Hollywood	So You Think You Can Dance Top 16 dancers perform. (N)				Michael Bublé		News (N)
	-	-	10 OMNI	The Daily	Frasier (CC)	Stargate SG-1 "1969"		Third Watch (CC)		Scrubs (CC)	Discovering	New Day
	252	336	11 GTV	Entertainment	ET Canada	Wipeout (N) (CC)		(:02) In Plain Sight (N) (CC)		The Philanthropist "Pilot"		News (N)
	256	389	12 VI	The Road to Avonlea		Old Christine	Gary Unmarr	America's Got Talent (N)		Questions for President		News (N)
	253	359	13 CITY	Law & Order: SVU		Goode Family	Surviving Sub.	Japanese Game Show		Murdoch Mysteries		The CityNews
	-	-	14 CW	Deal-No Deal	Deal-No Deal	America's Next Top Model		Hitched or Ditched (CC)		Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Frasier (CC)
	289	381	15 CBS	Entertainment	The Insider	Old Christine	Gary Unmarr	Criminal Minds (CC)		CSI: NY "The Box" (CC)		News (N)
	287	379	16 NBC	Evening Mag.	Inside Edition	I'm a Celebrity, Get Me Out.		America's Got Talent (N)		The Philanthropist "Pilot"		News (N)
	602	568	19 W	Clean	Friends (CC)	Grocery	W Expert	Love It or List It		House	Maxed Out	Maxed Out
	288	380	21 ABC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Wipeout (N) (CC)		Japanese Game Show		Questions for President		KOMO 4 News
	-	-	23 KVOS	M*A*S*H	Seinfeld	Mr. Mom ★★ (1983, Comedy) Michael Keaton, Teri Garr.				King	Still Standing	Scrubs (CC)
	291	383	27 PBS	Ready, Set, Grow		Journey to Planet Earth (CC)		The Music Instinct: Science and Song (N) (CC)				Performances
	290	382	28 FOX	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	So You Think You Can Dance Top 16 dancers perform. (N)				News (N) (CC)		Family Guy
	-	364	29 PBS	Music Instinct: Science		Keeping Up	Being Served	Tavis Smiley	Charlie Rose (N) (CC)		Sandwiches That You Like	
	296	654	34 SBK	Frasier (CC)	Frasier (CC)	Punk'd (CC)	South Park	Cheers (CC)	Half & Half	Work Home	Family Court	Paid Program
	298	653	35 TLA	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	America's Next Top Model		Hitched or Ditched (CC)		KTLA Prime News (N) (CC)		Friends (CC)
	295	651	36 WGN	WGN News at Nine (N) (CC)		Family Guy	Two/Half Men	According-Jim	Sex and-City	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	My Wife-Kids
	297	652	37 WPX	PIX News at Ten Tong. (N)		Two/Half Men	Friends (CC)	Sex and-City	According-Jim	Frasier (CC)	Frasier (CC)	TS250
	199	311	66 STR	News (N)	News		Late Show-Letterman	Late Late Show			Will & Grace	Seinfeld
news	502	390	26 NW	Crash: The Next Depression		CBC News: The National		CBC News: The National		Crash: The Next Depression		National
	500	500	38 CNN	Anderson Cooper 360 (CC)				Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360 (CC)		Cooper 360
sports	407	419	22 RSP	Boxing				UFC: Access	MMA Conn	Sportsnet Connected (Live)		Sportsnet
	400	400	30 TSN	SportsCentre (Live) (CC)			Golf TELUS World Skins Game -- Day 1. From Levis, Que.					SportsCentre
	411	457	49 OLN	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Departures (CC)		Survivorman (CC)		Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Departures
	410	403	24 SCR	Score Tonight		Final Score	Final Score	Final Score	Final Score	Final Score	Final Score	Final Score
	417	406	65 SC	Wrecked	Wrecked	Pimp My Ride	Pass Time	Thunder	Pinks Out	Pinks	Pass Time	Wrecked
	416	409	144 GLF	Fútbol FIFA Copa Confederaciones 2009: Semifinal.				Gol TV News	Gol TV News	Paid Program	Gol TV News	Gol TV News
family	552	543	42 YTV	In Real Life (CC)		Malcolm-Mid.	Futurama	Survive This	Adrenaline	Falcon Beach (CC)		Mystery Hnt.
	555	545	50 TEL	Total Drama	Total Drama	6TEEN	6TEEN	Futurama	American Dad	Chicken	Father	Moral Orel
	557	541	51 FAM	Wizards-Place	Han. Montana	Zack & Cody	Latest Buzz	Wizards-Place	Life Derek	Ned's School	Cory in House	Zack & Cody
	553	546	55 TRE	Comfy Couch	Big & Small	Max & Ruby	Babar (CC)	Backyard	Ni Hao	Go, Diego, Go!	Franklin	Comfy Couch
cable variety	268	354	5 KNO	Teeshoe: Powell River Story		Gourmet China: Living Legacy		Art of Violin (CC)		Art of Violin (CC)		Montreal Jazz
	575	583	20 CMT	Hope & Faith	Hope & Faith	Karaoke Star Junior (CC)		Home Imp.	Home Imp.	Reba (CC)	Reba "As Is"	Hope & Faith
	570	580	40 MM	MuchMusic Video Awards		One Tree Hill (CC)		Video on Trial	Video on Trial	MuchVibe		Spotlight
	600	564	43 H&G	House	House	Holmes	Holmes	Hid Potential	Unsellable	City	The Stagers	House
	615	520	61 A&E	Tattoo High.	Tattoo High.	Tattoo High.	Tattoo High.	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Dog the Bounty Hunter (CC)		Tattoo High.
	628	584	62 SPKE	(6:00) UFC Fight Night		4th and Long		CSI: NY "Oedipus Hex" (CC)		When Animals Attack III		Pros vs. Joes
	521	560	64 TLC	My First Home	My First Home	Obese and Pregnant (CC)		Mystery Diagnosis (CC)		My First Home	My First Home	627 Lb
	616	522	69 SHO	The Outer Limits "Glyphic"		The Guard (CC)		Abducted (2007, Drama) Sarah Wynter, Andrew Walker. (CC)				House (CC)
	620	523	70 BVO	Opera	Broadway	Law & Order "Melting Pot"		Without a Trace "Life Rules"		Beautiful People ★★★ (1999, Drama) (CC)		
	601	562	71 SLC	End of Leash	End of Leash	ET Canada	Til Debt-Part	Real Housewives NYC		Trading Spouses		Biggest Loser
	520	505	72 DIS	Mayday "Ghost Plane" (CC)		Daily Planet (CC)		Mayday "Ghost Plane" (CC)		Treasure Quest (N) (CC)		Deadliest
	522	506	74 HIS	NCIS "Light Sleeper" (CC)		Cities of the Underworld		Ice Road Truckers (CC)		NCIS "Light Sleeper" (CC)		Sea Hunters
	627	528	75 SPC	Stormworld	Grand Star	Stargate SG-1 "Inauguration"		Star Trek: Next Gener.		Star Trek: Voyager (CC)		Star Trek: Ent.
	294	650	77 TBS	Meet-Browns	Meet-Browns	Wedding Day (CC)		Sex and-City	Sex and-City	Dickie Roberts: Former Child Star ★★ (2003)		
	619	525	78 TROP	The Crow: Stairway to Heaven		What	What	Seinfeld	Raymond	Family Guy	Seinfeld	Seinfeld
	603	561	82 FN	Dear Food Network		The Wild Chef	The Wild Chef	The Wild Chef	The Wild Chef	The Wild Chef	The Wild Chef	Dear Food
	626	547	87 COM	Air Farce	Just for Laughs (CC)		Corner Gas	The Simpsons	South Park	Jon Dore	Tosh.0 (N)	Daily Show
	320	621	90 CEN	(6:35) Awake ★ (2007) (CC)		The Chair (2007) Alanna Chisholm. Premiere.		Halloween ★ (2007, Horror) Malcolm McDowell. (CC)				
	581	566	101 MTV	The Real World "Cancun"		MTV Live	After	True Love	The X Effect	The Real World "Cancun"		MTV Live
	261	394	102 V	Driven-Vision	Supernatural	Poltergeist: The Legacy		Kid Galahad ★★ (1962) Elvis Presley, Gig Young. (CC)				Paid Program
	-	-	105 MUL	Eight Heroes	Kingdom-Wind	Van. Nights	Iranian Pop	Sabor Latino		Sabor Musical	Travel TV	Patrol World

critics' corner

The Philanthropist

James Purefoy ("Rome") stars in this new drama series as billionaire playboy Teddy Rist, whose life is changed irrevocably after he rescues a boy during a hurricane. Buoyed by the experience, Teddy resolves to channel his power, passion and money into helping those in need, while exorcising his own demons in the process. Jesse L. Martin ("Law & Order") and Neve Campbell also star. 4 PM on STR

Tattoo Highway

Thomas tattoos a cross on a firefighter who fought the devastating Southern California wildfires of 2007. The crew picks up Blake, the sexy new shop helper, as the bus ventures farther south. Thomas confronts Chili about his drinking after he makes lewd and inappropriate advances toward Blake before passing out in the new episode"Hot and Bothered." 7 PM on A&E

Kenya's Style

Kenya Hunt

Read the blog at metronews.ca/kenyasstyle

For complete online movie listings, trailers, reviews and tickets, visit: metronews.ca/movies

Bring back the rat-tat-tat: Romantic gangsters return

PHIL BROWN
for Metro Canada

Johnny Depp stars in Michael Mann's Public Enemies.

These days movie gangsters only seem to come out of The Sopranos or Goodfellas mould. Most of the time we're limited realistic wise guys who are both charming and frightening.

That's all well and good — some of the best movies ever made have sprung from this style — but whatever happened to the romantic gangsters of old?

The classic '30s mobsters who spat out tongue twisting one-liners as fast as the bullets that came out of their Tommy guns; the guys who dressed in sharp suits, lived in the finest hotels, and went out with high-class dangerous ladies who could only be described as "dames."

With the release of Michael Mann's highly anticipated Public Enemies next week, it's time to look back at the best of the old school gangster flicks. From the original black and white classics that created the genre to the stylized modern mobsters movies that contemporary directors have made in honor of the past.

• **SCARFACE (1931)** Produced by Howard Hughes and directed by Howard Hawks, this nasty little movie was so shocking at the time that it was one of the primary causes of the start of film censorship. Al Pacino's instantly iconic performance in the 1983 remake may have eclipsed this Scarface in terms of brand name recognition, but original still holds up quite well.

• **LITTLE CAESAR (1931)** This film might not be as polished as the other founding mobster movies, but it wins points for having the most memorable gangster of the era, seeeee. Edward G. Robinson's unforgettable nasal voiced crime lord was the go-to mobster voice in countless cartoons and parodies until Marlon Brando created The Godfather.

• **THE PUBLIC ENEMY (1931)** You simply can't have a list of classic gangster movies without at least one entry featuring James Cagney. His "top of the world ma" speech in White Heat might be one his most memorable onscreen moment, and The Public Enemy is his best movie by a mile. The rags-to-riches crime film was considered so shocking at the time that a warning was attached to the opening and re-releases had to be edited for content.

• **THE UNTOUCHABLES (1987)** Brian DePalma brought back smart suited gangsters with style in this '80s blockbuster. Robert DeNiro's Al Capone made organized crime look more decadent that anyone else thanks to a massive costume budget. Just don't get in his way when he's clutching a bat and spitting out an eloquent David Mamet monologue about baseball. That'll get you into trouble.

• **MILLERS CROSSING (1990)** The Coen Brothers brought black Tommy gun gangsters with their trademark style and self-conscious wit in this modern masterpiece. With character names like "the Dane" and loopy lines like "take your flunky and dangle," the Coen's classic seemed like the ultimate '30s gangster revival. Well, at least until Michael Mann headed to Chicago with Johnny Depp and Christian Bale.

What about the children?

REALITY With a divorce imminent between reality TV parents Jon and Kate Gosselin, parenting experts say it's time to put the interests of the children — a pair of fraternal twins and sextuplets — before anything else.

"I'm concerned that the parents' love of the media and the dollars that are being generated from this (show) is going to supercede the children's emotional interests," said psychotherapist and parenting expert Alyson Schäfer. The couple announced they're seeking divorce on their show Jon & Kate Plus 8 on Monday night, acknowledging the toll their increasingly bitter relationship is having on their children.

"With any divorce, the kids come first," said Schäfer, author of the best-selling book, Honey, I Wrecked the Kids. "I'd want to make sure that there was representation for the kids, both from a counselling point of view and probably from a legal point of view," she added.

Ann Douglas, an author who blogs on parenting issues, said it's also vital that the estranged parents not engage in a campaign to win over the hearts of their children at the expense of the other.

"First of all, when you're getting divorced, don't bash the other parent and undercut their credibility. That's really important," Douglas said.

Douglas noted that the sniping had already begun, even before the couple's announced plans to divorce.

Despite Kate Gosselin's assertion that the marriage would have failed whether "the world was watching or not," both experts say the strain of living in the media spotlight was likely a contributing factor.

"Frankly, if you took any home and put it under the microscope — it wouldn't matter how many kids you have — it would change the family dynamics," Schäfer said.

Douglas said both parents should consider ending the program, which is in its fifth season, or risk damaging their children.

"If these kids look back on the footage and say, 'What were my parents thinking? Why did they raise me on reality TV?' and especially when things got bad, 'Why did they keep the cameras rolling?' this could end up being very damaging to the children," Douglas said.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Hiatus

• Jon & Kate Plus 8 will go on hiatus until August following the Gosselins' separation announcement on Monday's episode, TLC said in a statement, tvguide.com reports.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Rebeccah Wyse was kicked off Canada's Next Top Model.

No sour grapes for Wyse

BRIAN COULTON
for Metro Toronto

She's got the look. But when you see her in action, Rebeccah Wyse doesn't appear to fit the model mould.

"I am a big person who stamps around at random times and watches the original series of Star Trek all in one go because I'm just that kind of a person," said the 19-year-old from Cambridge, Ont.

Despite her regular exhibition of quirks and personality while competing on the third cycle of Canada's Next Top Model, the show's judges criticized the newly bleached-blonde, Twiggy-cut competitor for not being herself in photo shoot challenges, leading to Wyse being the latest model kicked off the show.

Canada's Next Top Model airs Tuesday nights on CTV.

Her struggles started early in last night's episode, when judge and Fashion Television hostess Jeanne Beker primed the remaining six women to face the media; one required task of being a top model. Then, she took them to a Toronto Fashion Week party to test their interviewing prowess.

While Wyse received generally positive reviews for her performance, she said she lacked confidence when thinking of responses. "The media is kind of terrifying," she said with a laugh. "I felt that I was always thinking in the back of my mind, 'Don't say anything stupid. Don't say anything stupid. They're probably going to take it the wrong way'."

Her anxiety continued through the week's photo challenge, when she was paired up with fellow contender, Calgary's Nikita Kiceluk. The women had to pose together with background models, while both showcasing a mobile phone.

The brightest of the bunch was Meaghan DeWarreng-Waller of Winnipeg, who earlier received transparent substitutes for her orthodontic braces. She won the challenge, finally separating herself from Heather Delaney of Halifax, to whom she was oft compared by photographers and judges.

It was no surprise to Wyse, however, to be kicked off the show for her performance in the challenge. "I was disappointed in myself for only making it half way," she said, "but I was also really proud of myself for making it half way."

"When I was eliminated, I came to the realization that this was a show where the prize is a career, and I wasn't exactly sure if that was the career I wanted to take for the rest of my life."
Rebeccah Wyse

She said her fate was sealed by her lack of passion, in comparison to the other hopefuls. "When I was eliminated, I came to the realization that this was a show where the prize is a career, and I wasn't exactly sure if that was the career I wanted to take for the rest of my life."

What Wyse is sure of now is modelling's not the career for her. Instead, she intends to enroll in acting school, marking a return to her performance roots.

Beloved TV sidekick dies

Ed McMahon, a fixture on U.S. late-night television for 30 years as the full-throated announcer and sidekick for Johnny Carson on NBC's The Tonight Show, died yesterday at age 86, his spokesman said.

The veteran TV personality, best known for his nightly introduction of Carson in a deep, booming voice with the drawn-out line, "Heeeeeeeere's Johnny!" died at a Los Angeles-area hospital, spokesman Howard Bragman said.

"He died early this morning with his wife and loved ones by his side," Bragman said.

Ed McMahon

McMahon had been battling pneumonia and other illnesses. Bragman declined to confirm or deny reports that the performer had been diagnosed with bone cancer.

Outgoing, affable and possessing a robust, baritone voice, McMahon began his career with stints as a bingo caller, carnival barker and boardwalk pitchman before becoming a broadcast announcer and TV host.

Trained as a U.S. Marine fighter pilot during World War II, he flew missions in Korea in the 1950s.

He went on to become one of the most celebrated sidekicks in TV history as Carson's right-hand man on The Tonight Show starting in 1962, stopping in 1992 when Carson retired as host.

REUTERS

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MAPLE PICTURES

Things dads shouldn't say

Angelina Jolie's dad sees the similarities between his daughter and Megan Fox, usmagazine.com reports. "Well, they are both very beautiful women, and they are both sexy gals, you know," Jon Voight said. "And they're both in action pictures now." METRO NEWS SERVICES

Celebrity Buzz

Amy's surrogate 'mummy'

ALTERNATE LIFE Amy Winehouse is calling a pub owner "mummy," femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The troubled singer — whose alcohol-fuelled antics have caused concern for her parents while she is staying in St. Lucia — has grown close to a woman named Marjorie who runs her favourite bar on the island, and now thinks of her as family.

A source told Britain's The Sun newspaper: "She bounds into her local, Marjorie's Beach Bar, shouting, 'Mummy! Mummy!' on a daily basis.

"She's not only close to Marjorie but also her sons. She'll spend hours in there with them."

Winehouse's parents — who divorced when the 25-year-old singer was young — recently released pictures of their drunken daughter slumped over while playing the drums.

They have also spoken out about her problems, saying her alcohol addiction is "killing" them.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Kabbalah vacay for Madge clan

FALL GETAWAY Madonna is taking her newly adopted daughter Mercy on holiday, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The singer — a devout follower of the mystical Jewish faith Kabbalah — wants to take the four-year-old, and her other adopted son David, to see the Wailing Wall in Jerusalem.

The trip will happen in September to coincide with Madonna's final date of her Sticky and Sweet tour in Tel Aviv, Israel.

A source told Britain's The Sun newspaper: "Madonna wants to give Mercy enough time to settle into her new home. By September she feels she will be ready to take the trip without the danger of upheaval.

"The Wailing Wall is a very sacred place for anyone with links to the Jewish faith and she wants the children to see it."

Mercy flew from her home country of Malawi to London to start a new life with the 50-year-old singer on Saturday.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

GLAAD rips into Perez

THE OTHER F-WORD During a heated confrontation with Black Eyed Peas star Will.i.am over the weekend, gossip blogger Perez Hilton decided to call him the "worst possible thing that thug would ever want to hear," popeater.com reports.

Unfortunately for him, that "thing" was an anti-gay slur, and that move has angered a powerful gay rights group that is now calling for an apology from the self-dubbed Queen of All Media.

GLAAD was responding to a video posted by the blogger, whose real name is Mario Lavandeira, in which he relayed his version of a much-discussed altercation with Will.i.am and his entourage.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Elisabeth served with suit

UNDER FIRE More drama for Elisabeth Hasselbeck, usmagazine.com reports. The View co-host — who sparks controversy for her conservative opinions — is being sued by an author who claims Hasselbeck, 32, stole her book idea.

Self-published author Susan Hassett states in a federal lawsuit filed in Boston that Hasselbeck infringed on her copyrights by publishing a book on celiac disease called The G-Free Diet: A Gluten-Free Survival Guide last month, the Boston Herald reports.

Publicists for ABC and Hasselbeck's publisher, Hachette Book Group, could not be reached for comment by the Herald.

Hasselbeck — who is pregnant with her third child — recently announced she suffers from celiac disease, which damages the small intestine and interferes with nutrient absorption.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

No more Speidi, E! viewers beg

ENOUGH E! News is banning any further updates on Heidi and Spencer Pratt.

The channel's site ran a poll recently asking readers if they'd had enough of the couple, and a whopping 94 per cent said yes, so the editors have vowed to ignore the reality stars from now on.

"Barring any actual news (e.g., she gets knocked up, he falls off a cliff or — heaven help us — her album goes to No. 1), consider this their very last post," they said in a blog post.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Bikinis are popular in Dubai, Paris says

WELL, DUH There have been a lot of concerns surrounding Paris Hilton as she films her latest reality show in Dubai, especially after she was photographed recently at the beach in a bikini, something it was assumed local officials wouldn't be thrilled about. But Hilton was quick to take to her Twitter account to set the record straight.

"One of my friends just called me from back home and asked if I got in trouble for wearing a bikini at the beach here," she wrote. "Everyone at the beach and pool was wearing swimsuits or bikinis. What do you expect people to wear? It's over 100 degrees out here."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Farrah hospitalized again

POOR HEALTH In her continued battle with cancer, Farrah Fawcett has again returned to a Los Angeles hospital, a source tells People magazine. The actress has been hospitalized for at least two weeks.

The source indicates that the actress, who was first diagnosed with anal cancer in 2006, is not doing well.

"There was a moment last week when she was supposed to be released and was going home but things changed," said the source. Fawcett's publicist Arnold Robinson said, "She is still being treated for her condition."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

It's a girl, and another girl, for SJP

SURROGATE BIRTH It's double the joy for Sarah Jessica Parker and Matthew Broderick, who have welcomed twin girls, according to several local news outlets in Ohio, people.com reports.

A spokesperson for East Ohio Regional Hospital had no comment, but told People "everything's good." Reps for the couple could not be reached for comment.

"More 'fabulous girls' are joining our SATC family," Sex and the City co-star Kim Cattrall said yesterday.

METRO WORLD NEWS

GETTY IMAGES

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Friday Variable 20°/ 12°

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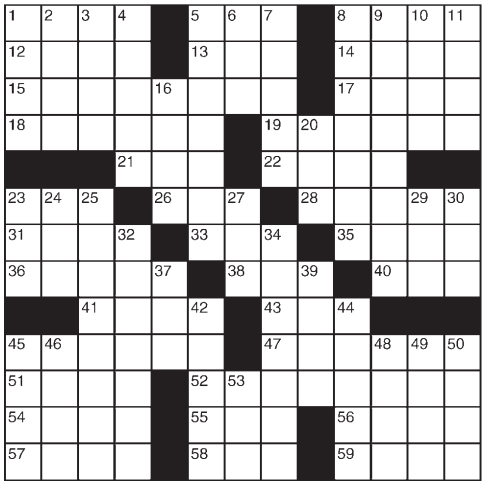

Crossword across

1 Catchall abbr.
5 Felon's flight
8 Basilica section
12 Initial chip
13 Actress Larter
14 Converse
15 Rogue
17 Undecided
18 Piercing
19 Anatomical rupture
21 Copper head?
22 Genealogy chart
23 Relative of a peke
26 Bonfire residue
28 TV's Gomez Addams
31 Use a rotary phone
33 Round Table address
35 Benefit
36 Extraterrestrial
38 Encountered
40 Obtain
41 Manicure site
43 23-Across' place, often
45 Pamper
47 See 34-Down
51 Shrek is one
52 Potpourri
54 Winged
55 Rhyming honour
56 Additionally
57 Stamina (Sl.)
58 Head movement
59 Not so much

Crossword down

1 Church service
2 Part of the foot?
3 Celebrity
4 "As You Like It" role
5 Anarchic
6 Chicken-king link
7 Has potential
8 Ingenue, e.g.
9 Repeated attempts to contact
10 Ganges garment
11 Sicilian volcano
16 Goya's "Duchess of —"
20 Historic time
23 Palm Pilot, e.g.
24 Lubricate
25 Principal street
27 That guy
29 Mamie's man
30 Trawler need
32 Guides
34 Calm
37 Zero
39 London gallery
42 Lousy car
44 Bicycle part
45 Brat's stocking stuffer
46 Look lasciviously
48 Competent
49 Back talk
50 Ids' counterparts
53 Altar affirmative

Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

5	9			4		8		6
		6						2
7					2		4	
		5	4		1			
1				3				8
			7		9	5		
	5		8					1
2						3		
6		7		1			9	4

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

M	A	Y	O	■	A	L	A	■	B	A	B	A
O	R	A	L	■	V	E	T	■	A	F	A	R
W	I	L	D	F	O	W	L	■	T	R	I	G
N	A	E	■	R	I	D	■	P	H	O	T	O
■	■	■	B	I	D	■	J	E	T	■	■	■
V	A	D	U	Z	■	W	O	N	O	V	E	R
A	H	O	Y	■	C	A	T	■	W	E	V	E
L	A	Z	A	R	U	S	■	H	E	X	E	D
■	■	■	V	I	P	■	T	I	L	■	■	■
C	A	R	O	M	■	W	I	G	■	P	S	I
A	N	E	W	■	N	I	G	H	T	O	W	L
N	O	D	E	■	A	S	H	■	U	R	A	L
E	N	O	L	■	B	E	T	■	B	E	G	S

8	2	4	6	1	9	5	3	7
3	6	9	7	5	8	1	2	4
5	7	1	3	4	2	9	6	8
9	1	3	8	2	6	4	7	5
6	5	8	4	3	7	2	9	1
7	4	2	1	9	5	6	8	3
4	9	6	5	8	3	7	1	2
2	3	5	9	7	1	8	4	6
1	8	7	2	6	4	3	5	9

Find today's answers + play more games at metronews.ca

SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:

Under 13 min .....Genius
13-17 min.....Scholar
17-21 min .....Smart
21-25 min.....Not bad
25+ min.....Keep practising

Metro Recipe of the Day

Meatballs with Creole Sauce

INGREDIENTS:

1 large onion
1 1/3 lb (600g) ground beef
1 large egg
3 tbsp (45 ml) plain flour
1/4 tsp (1 ml) cayenne pepper
1/4 tsp (1 ml) hot paprika
Salt and black pepper
2 tbsp (25 ml) olive oil

SAUCE:

1 tbsp (15 ml) olive oil
1 medium green pepper
1 medium red pepper
2 cloves garlic
2 sticks celery
1 can (19oz / 540ml) chopped tomatoes
1 bay leaf
1 tsp (5 ml) cayenne pepper
1 tsp (5 ml) hot paprika
1 tsp (5 ml) molasses

METHOD:

1. For meatballs, peel and chop onion. Put half into large bowl with beef, egg, flour, cayenne, paprika, salt and pepper. Mix thoroughly and set aside.
2. For Creole sauce, heat oil in large pot over moderate heat, fry remaining onion until softened, then rinse, deseed and chop peppers and stir into onion.
3. Peel garlic and crush into pot. Rinse and chop celery and stir into pot. Cook 2 minutes.
4. Add tomatoes and their juice, bay leaf, cayenne, paprika, molasses and 1/2 cup (125 mL) of water and bring mixture to boil. Then simmer, uncovered, 15 minutes or until sauce is thick but vegetables still retain crunch.
5. While sauce is simmering, cook meatballs: Heat oil slowly in very large frying pan. With wet hands, shape meat mixture into 16 balls, about size of golf balls, and put carefully into hot oil. Fry over high heat 10 minutes, until browned all over and just cooked on inside.
6. Season Creole sauce to taste with salt and pepper and serve with meatballs.

SERVES 4

rd.ca

For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to **rd.ca** or check out **Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!**

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton

sallybrompton.com

ARIES ♈
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
Someone you are close to emotionally is in a rebellious mood and you may be tempted to say something harsh. Don't. It will only make it worse.

TAURUS ♉
APRIL 21-MAY 21
You are right to be pleased that you were proved correct — and those who swore blind that you did not know what you were talking about got it wrong.

GEMINI ♊
MAY 22-JUNE 21
You may be eager to cash in on your latest big idea but it will take a sizeable investment of time and energy, so plan carefully before you begin.

CANCER ♋
JUNE 22-JULY 22
Be bold, be brave and be the best you possibly can in all things. Most people don't aim high enough and therefore fall short of their potential.

LEO ♌
JULY 23-AUG 23
The Sun's transit of the most sensitive area of your chart will inevitably make you a bit crabby at times, but that's not a bad thing.

VIRGO ♍
AUG 24-SEPT 22
If you are open and honest with people, they will be open and honest with you and together you'll do wonderful things.

LIBRA ♎
SEPT 23-OCT 23
Allow the ambitious side of your nature to come to the fore. Encourage yourself to do more and do better. You have almost unlimited potential.

SCORPIO ♏
OCT 24-NOV 22
You seem much more like your old self of late and the Sun in your fellow Water sign of Cancer will give you the confidence to try new things.

SAGITTARIUS ♐
NOV 23-DEC 21
If you think that you deserve a bigger share of the spoils it is your right and your duty to speak up about it. Don't worry that you might look greedy.

CAPRICORN ♑
DEC 22-JAN 20
An upbeat attitude is essential today, especially if you are one of those Capricorns who tends to take life a bit too seriously at times. Look around you.

AQUARIUS ♒
JAN 21-FEB 18
If you are feeling bored with your current routine then it is up to you to do something about it. No one can make life more interesting for you.

PISCES ♓
FEB 19-MARCH 20
The Sun in Cancer may be a protective influence but that does not mean you can let down your guard. Trust no one.

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BY TRICKY RICKY KANE

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1. Actor LaBeouf's folksy greetings (2)
2. Slate-colored sea mist (1)
3. Carelessly toss a wedding band (1)
4. Low singer's running contests (2)
5. Fashion poser drivel (2)
6. Pittsburgh NFLer mender (2)
7. Acknowledging manuscript fixing (3)

6-24-09

ANSWERS: 1. SHIAS HIVAS 2. GRAY SPRAY 3. FLING RING 4. BASSS RACES 5. MODEL TWADDLE 6. STEELER HEALER 7. CREDITING EDITING

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